



The Beacon



By and for emergency responders

WMD AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INTERNET RESOURCES

The NDPO will publish three installments of a comprehensive list of Internet sites compiled by Greg Banner of the Rhode Island Department of Health. The following sites are useful for medical emergency planning and WMD consequence event planning.

Organizations:

Armed Forces Institute of Pathology –
<http://www.afip.org>

Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute –
<http://www.afri.usuhs.mil>

Center for Civilian Biodefense Studies, Johns Hopkins University – <http://hopkins-biodefense.org>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention –
<http://www.cdc.gov>

CDC, Bioterrorism Preparedness & Response –
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov>

CDC, National Center for Infectious Diseases –
<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/diseases/index.htm>

Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, US Food and Drug Administration –
<http://vm.cfsan.fda.gov/list.html>

Center for Nonproliferation Studies, Monterey Institute for International Studies –
<http://cns.miis.edu>

Chemical and Biological Defense Information Analysis Center –
<http://www.cbiac.apgea.army.mil>

The Chemical and Biological Arms Control Institute – <http://www.cbaci.org>

Defense Threat Reduction Agency – Chem-Bio Defense – <http://www.dtra.mil/chem/chem.html>

Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Emergency Preparedness –
<http://ndms.dhhs.gov/NDMS/ndms.html>

Department of Defense/Dept. of Army, Director of Military Support – <http://www.dtic.mil/doms/>

DoD, Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Medical reference site – <http://www.nbc-med.org/others>

DoD, Office of Counterproliferation and Chemical/Biological Defense –
<http://acq.osd.mil/cp/main.htm>

Department of Justice, Office for State and Local Preparedness Support –
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/osldps>

Domestic Preparedness (commercial site) –
<http://www.domesticpreparedness.com>

The Emergency Information Infrastructure Partnership – <http://www.emforum.org>

The Emergency Net (commercial site) – <http://www.emergency.com/index.htm>

Environmental Protection Agency, Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office – <http://www.epa.gov/swercepp>; <http://www.epa.gov/ceppo>

FEMA partners list – <http://www.fema.gov/about/partners.html>

DoD, Global Emerging Infectious Surveillance and Response System – <http://141.236.12.246/main2.html>

Henry L. Stimson Center – <http://www.stimson.org/index.html>

International Association of Emergency Managers – <http://www.iaem.com>

Joint Programs Office – Bio Defense – <http://www.jpobd.net>

Joint Service Chemical Biological Information Systems (Tracking system for Equipment Development) – <http://206.37.238.107/jscbis/jscbis.cfm>

National Academies of Science, Civilian Emergency Response to Chemical or Biological Weapons Incidents Project – <http://www4.nas.edu/cp.nsf/57b01c7b6493c485256555005853cf/a3861123d7632dc4852565690079b6f9?OpenDocument>

National Disaster Medical System, Team MA-1, Boston – <http://www.mal1boston.com>

The National Domestic Preparedness Consortium, Academic Consortium – <http://www.emrtc.nmt.edu/ndpc/main.html>

National Emergency Management Association – <http://www.nemaweb.org/index.cfm>

National Emergency Rescue and Response Training Center, Texas A&M University – <http://teexweb.tamu.edu/nerrtc>

National Institutes of Health – <http://www.nih.gov>

The National Response Team, HAZMAT & Chemical Spills – <http://www.nrt.org/nrt/home.nsf>

New York City Dept. of Health – <http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/doh/home.html>

Office of Counterproliferation and Chemical and Biodefense Studies – <http://www.acq.osd.mil/cp/welcome.html>

Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism – <http://www.okcterrorisinstitute.com/index.htm>
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PREEMT, Medical Counterterrorism, Inc. – <http://home.eznet.net/~Kenberry/>

Program Director for Biological Defense Systems – <http://ww.apgea.army.mil/RDA/pdbio/index.htm>
!

Public Health Svc (DHHS) Office of Emergency Pre – <http://ndms.dhhs.gov>

Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency – <http://www.state.ri.us/riema/riemaaa.html>

State Health Dept. Web Sites – <http://www.cdc.gov/phtn/sites.htm#state>

Technical Escort Unit, US Army – <http://www2.sbccom.army.mil/teu>

US Army Chemical School – <http://www.wood.army.mil/usacmls>

US Army Medical Command – <http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/armymed/default2.htm>

US Army Medical Research Institute of
Chemical Defense –
<http://chemdef.apgea.army.mil>

US Army Medical Research and Material
Command – <http://mrmc-www.army.mil>

US Army Center for Health Promotion &
Preventive Medicine – <http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil>

USAMRIID – US Army Medical Research
Institute of Infectious Diseases –
<http://www.usamriid.army.mil>

US Army National Guard Bureau –
<http://www.ngb.dtic.mil>

US Army Soldier and Biological Chemical
Command – <http://www.sbccom.apgea.army.mil>

US Marine Corps, Chemical Biological Incident
Response Force –
[http://www.mcwl.quantico.usmc.mil/openingpos
ter3.jpg](http://www.mcwl.quantico.usmc.mil/openingposter3.jpg); <http://158.237.108.181>

US Navy Chem/Bio Program –
http://www.chembiodef.navy.mil/o_nav.htm

Virginia Task Force One Urban Search and
Rescue Team – <http://www.vatfl.org>

*The NDPO would like to thank Greg Banner for
sharing his compendium of WMD web sites with
the emergency response community. Questions
for Mr. Banner may be e-mailed at
gregoryb@doh.state.ri.us.*

WHITE HOUSE ISSUES A MEMORANDUM ON THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

On April 7th, the President issued a
memorandum that designated the Attorney
General as the Lead Official for the Emergency
Response Assistance Program under Sections

1412 and 1415 of the National Defense
Authorization Act for FY 1997 (Public Law
104-201)(the “Act”).

Under sections 1412(a) and 1415(a) of
the Act, the Secretary of Defense was
responsible for implementing the Emergency
Response Assistance Program, commonly
known as the “Domestic Preparedness
Program,” to provide civilian personnel of
Federal, State, and local agencies with training
and expert advice regarding emergency
responses to a use or threatened use of a weapon
of mass destruction, and for testing and
improving the responses of such agencies to
emergencies involving chemical and biological
weapons.

Under the authority vested in the
President by the Constitution and the laws of the
United States, he designated the Attorney
General to replace the Secretary of Defense as
the lead Federal official with responsibility for
carrying out these programs.

The designations are effective October
1, 2000, and constitute designations pursuant to
sections 1412(a)(2) and 1415(d)(1) of the Act.

*Editor’s Note: The Nunn, Lugar, Domenici
Training program transfer from DoD to
OJP/DOJ is also included in this memorandum.*

NDPO HOSTS APRIL CHAT SESSION

On April 26th, the NDPO hosted a chat
session for members of the emergency response
community and FBI WMD Coordinators. The
following transcript has been edited for
publication in *The Beacon*.

NDPO says:

Today, we're going to talk about NDPO
projects and try to answer questions about
the NDPO and WMD issues.

Chat Participant says:

Any idea when, or if, LEO will be available

to access through the Internet?

NDPO says:

LEO should be available on the Internet in June of this year.

Chat Participant says:

I think that will help many access information more frequently

NDPO says:

Absolutely. We've been trying to persuade LEO to get on the Internet

NDPO says:

We have been increasing our outreach over the last two weeks to professional trade associations here in Washington DC

Chat Participant says:

What ones?

NDPO says:

So far we've met with the Am. Nurses Assoc., the IAFC, the Nat. Assoc. of Counties, the Am. Ambulance Assoc., the Nat. Vol. Fire Council, and the Nat. Sheriff's Assoc.

Chat Participant says:

I have given several briefings on WMD in the local area, there is a lot of First Responder interest, they need info and support

NDPO says:

Who are you talking to in your briefings?

Chat Participant says:

EMS, PD, Emergency Manager groups

NDPO says:

Are they from Illinois, or is it a national audience.

Chat Participant says:

Local, but I have done some regional and statewide groups as well

NDPO says:

Great. What type of info are they looking for from the NDPO?

Chat Participant says:

They want the On Scene Guide, Protocols, and the biggest question is what help can the FEDS give them, how fast, and who is in charge.

NDPO says:

Good questions. What do they mean by who's in charge?

Chat Participant says:

How many on-scene guides are still

available, and what's the best way to access?

NDPO says:

We're down to a few hundred. The best access is through LEO. If orgs have money, they can reprint them at their own cost. We have a printer that we can refer them to.

Chat Participant says:

The Emergency Managers group also wants to improve the interface, I have printed some on scene guides for handouts, and also I am working on Powerpoint for that

Chat Participant says:

Hospital ER staff also are concerned about getting up to speed, they are really looking for info, CDC has some, but they want it at the local first response level

Chat Participant says:

Someone recently bombarded me with questions regarding what guidelines CDC specifically has distributed to public health agencies for handling bioterrorism agents and preventing contagion. Do you know what CDC has done in this regard.

Chat Participant says:

Our Mo. Dept. of Health Bio-Terrorism Coordinator is here with me. She has heard that some of the WMD funding/program direction is moving from DOD focus to DOJ. She wants to know what the NDPO perspective of this is, and what if any changes that will affect them at the state level.

Chat Participant says:

CDC has an April 21 MMR document that I can send to the NDPO

NDPO says:

We'll support DOJ as we have supported DOD regarding the NLD/DPP.

NDPO says:

We are also redesigning our Internet site to provide more contact information for the office. Hopefully this will aid you in directing people to the office.

NDPO says:

If anyone has information/articles for upcoming Beacons, please let us know. I know Missouri is doing a lot in WMD prep.

Chat Participant says:

Is there any procedure to get someone on the mailing list for the Beacon, outside of downloading from LEO?

NDPO says:

We are building a list serve on email. They could submit an e-mail address and we'll get it to them.

Chat Participant says:

Mo. Dept of Health is working on trying to put together something for the Beacon.

Chat Participant says:

KC MO Health also has a lot of good info

NDPO says:

Great.

Chat Participant says:

Is the Beacon hitting our target audience?

NDPO says:

The Beacon is hitting the target audience, however the audience is so large that it will take a while to reach everyone.

Chat Participant says:

Any feedback yet on the HHS visit to Baton Rouge LEPC meeting last week?

NDPO says:

The feedback was extremely positive.

Chat Participant says:

We need to bridge the gap between PD, FD, EMA and EMS, LEPC as a team, and we are slowly breaking down those barriers

Chat Participant says:

I'm hoping the state/local assessment process will help that

Chat Participant says:

What's the best single source of information on training available to FBI agents assigned to WMD matters?

NDPO says:

Try the Compendium of Federal training.

Chat Participant says:

But, sometimes the CAR document leans so heavily to WMD, it makes some officials lean the OTHER way

Chat Participant says:

Referring to the OJP assessment tool - required of states this year - different than the CAR

Chat Participant says:

This assessment is tied to the state grants

for equipment - to be provided by OSLDPS

NDPO says:

An update on the CAR addresses WMD to some extent, but the OJP assessment tool is the official document to assess needs and vulnerabilities.

NDPO says:

How many people use chat regionally or locally?

NDPO says:

It's a good tool to use for JTTFs or work groups.

Chat Participant says:

Regionally and with our National groups, monthly

Chat Participant says:

We're just on the brink of using a "chat" for statewide public health, local emergency management directors, etc.

NDPO says:

Great. If any of you need our input or to join in, let us know.

NDPO says:

The idea of our chat session is to get people comfortable with the chat program so it can be used at the local level.

NDPO says:

Pass the word to other WMD Coordinators to get online and join us.

Chat Participant says:

This format works well, I will pass it on

Chat Participant says:

Is there any concern that foreign intelligence regarding WMD terrorist threats collected from, e.g., CIA or the State Department, is not adequately disseminated to FBI field offices? Seems to me that I could use perhaps some general intell. on WMD threats that surely is being collected abroad.

NDPO says:

That's not really in the mission of the NDPO. You might want to call the International Terrorism section or WMD Ops.

Chat Participant says:

I figured that the intell. issue was outside your mission, but thought that the issue may have been touched on by NDPO at

some point. The Chat room is a good tool.

NDPO says:

We stay out of that intel. Glad you like the chat. If we can do anything for Newark, let us know.

Chat Participant says:

A big problem is that even in the FBI, LEO is not widespread being used and few have access.

NDPO says:

I agree that LEO is not used adequately, but when they get on the Internet in June, that should help. The Virtual Private Network is being tested - and it looks to be successful.

Chat Participant says:

Is June a definite date?

NDPO says:

According to LEO - yes. Does anyone have any final questions, or did I miss any questions?

Chat Participant says:

How can we get the word out to the locals in a more timely manner?

NDPO says:

Chat/e-mail/newsgroups, etc.

Chat Participant says:

Status of SLAG?

NDPO says:

It's still pending in the AGs office.

Chat Participant says:

Next date for this session?

NDPO says:

We'll shoot for the third Tuesday in May. The time will remain at 2 est

Chat Participant says:

Okay, May 16 2PM EST

NEW NDPO WEBSITE ONLINE

The NDPO's newly designed website was posted this month on the FBI's Internet Homepage at www.fbi.gov/programs/ndpo/default.htm.

The new site, designed by members of the NDPO staff and the FBI's Technical

Services Unit, features updated information and new WMD links.

NDPO staff is working on obtaining a new Internet address at www.ndpo.gov. The office recently received FBI and GSA approval for the address, and we are currently waiting for a contractor to provide the direct link to the site.

Editorial

JUST A FIRE CHIEF?

By Michael J. Fagel, Ph.D.

When you earned the title of "Fire Chief," did you ever stop to think of ALL the roles and responsibilities that are attached to the "job?"

Look back and think what the role of the 21st century fire chief really includes: Chief Executive Officer, Human Relations Specialist, Risk Manager, Safety Manager, Budget Director, Employee Development, and Mentor.

These terms may not be actually used in your situation, but, in some fashion, they shape your job, response and affect the delivery of service to the community, our customers.

The definition of "Chief" as printed in Webster's Unabridged Dictionary is:

'Chief, Leader or ruler, esp. of a tribe or clan, the head of a department in an institution, most important...

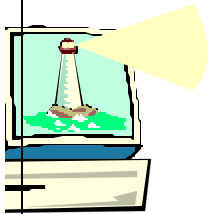
In today's fast paced world of emergency service, the fire chief is also considered to be a "Risk Manager."

History shows us of large loss fires, as well as recent mass casualty incidents. Your ever-changing role as risk manager will focus on some new roles that include protection,

prevention and educational avenues that may have been largely undeveloped.

Some theories define risk at various levels as acceptable, or even degrees of risk that are allowable.

I strongly suggest that NO DEGREE OF



RISK THAT WILL JEOPARDIZE LIVES IS ACCEPTABLE.

Education is one of the inherent responsibilities in the job. As an educator, you must constantly strive to educate your employees and customers that safety and prevention is best when it is Proactive, and not reactive. All too often, we have attempted to react when it is too late. After the fire horse has gotten out of the barn.

Lets look at the large loss fire that covered the last 2 centuries:

- Peshitigo Forest Fire in Wisconsin
- Great Chicago Fire
- Triangle Shirtwaist Fire
- Beverly Hills Supper Club
- Hamlet, NC poultry plant fire

As chiefs, risk managers, safety managers and other related disciplines, we CAN slow down these mounting losses. BUT, only through a coordinated effort in all phases of safety and emergency management, fire safety and preparedness training.

WE are the key to successful programs in our organizations and our communities. Our role may be safety, disaster planning, fire protection or other important roles in the prevention of a catastrophe.

RISK MANAGEMENT may be a term we are uncomfortable with, but we must get used to using it more and more. Some may even think that it is an oxymoron, such as “reduced government spending” or “no new taxes.” Regardless of what we think, RISK MANAGEMENT is the key to the survival of our organization.

Asset management is also a key role in today’s ever-changing fire service. Assets are our people, our trained response staff, our building inspectors, our EMS staff, and our fire prevention units. With unemployment at the lowest rate in decades, it is increasingly more difficult to maintain staffing levels. We must do all we can to protect our assets.

One method of protecting our assets is to fully embrace the SAFETY of our staff at all levels of the operation. We can NOT just issue a general order, like a run card and say” we must be safe at all times.” We must actually practice and believe in SAFETY at every level of our operations, from Training, response and overhaul. Our GOALS must be to adhere to the highest safety practices and principles at all times.

SAFETY is not just a word; it is an attitude that MUST permeate the entire organization. From the command staff, administration, all the way to the street level. This can be just as important as utilizing the proper personal protective equipment on the fire ground or EMS scene. We must practice what we tell our potential customers daily, with the same fervor we use when we are working a rescue or size up at a multi-alarm operation.

The term MANDATORY also raises some issues with us, when we hear of unfounded mandates. We can go a lot farther with the word “should” than “shall” or “must”. Unfortunately, we are faced with many issues that are preceded with the term” mandatory.”

We cannot just mandate safety and health. We cannot eliminate all risk. We can,

how ever, allow an atmosphere where safety can flourish. That begins during recruit training. During evolutions, and on scene. That word we must use is: ATTITUDE.

I know that those of you with teenagers know a great deal about attitude. Yes, we have it at work on a daily basis, as well.

We must take the word of OSHA, and change the meaning to: OUR SAFETY AND HEALTH ATTITUDE.

Yes, attitude and awareness may just save our life or the lives of others.

We can make a difference, if we open our minds to allowing others to do their best with the proper training and support.

Safety training needs to be more education and attitude awareness.

Would you rather your teenage daughter comes home from 8th grade science class and says we just had sex training, or would you rather it be EDUCATION?

Education goes a long way in making our workplaces safer and more efficient. Take the time now to understand our responsibilities to our customers, our staff that does our mission.

No piece of motorized apparatus has ever successfully extinguished a working fire, or mitigates an incident without the support and use of properly trained and qualified response staff.

Properly trained takes on many meanings. You will know if you have devoted the "proper" amount of time to the training. We must not use the term mandatory to assault the safety training programs. Adequate time and resources to train, as well as to the mission safely and efficiently is the key to survival.

Take the time to be safe, take the time to train "properly."

It is MANDATORY that we protect the lives of the people we serve with, and those that we protect.

Michael J. Fagel, PhD
Certified Emergency Manager

Mike Fagel has been a member of the North Aurora, IL Fire department since 1975, serving in various capacities. He now serves the fire department as their Director of the Emergency Management Division. He also is a member of the Northern Illinois Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team. He chairs several committees in Washington on safety and health/OSHA issues, and is on several IAFC committees. Fagel also is a reservist with FEMA, as a disaster safety officer. He can be reached at mjfagel@aol.com, or 630 897 0551.

THE BEACON STAFF WELCOMES YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

Do you have an idea for an article on domestic preparedness? Is your community working on a new WMD preparedness project? Why don't you share your thoughts and experiences with the rest of the emergency response community? *The Beacon* staff is dedicated to publishing useful and relevant information for the public safety sector. We welcome articles relating to all facets of WMD preparedness, including training, planning, exercises, equipment, health and medical, and information sharing. We also welcome suggestions on improving the newsletter.

If you wish to contribute to *The Beacon*, please contact a member of the staff at the numbers/e-mail addresses listed below.

Editor's Note: Items published in The Beacon are for informational purposes for the emergency response community. The material submitted does not necessarily imply review and acceptance by the interagency community represented at the NDPO.

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The Beacon is published monthly for members of the emergency response community. Please send articles, comments, feedback, and letters to the Information Sharing Team at the address listed above.